Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 NAIROB 01041 01 OF 02 201741Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10
AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 SOE-02 COME-00 DODE-00
EB-08 EPA-04 INR-07 L-03 NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00
PM-05 USIA-15 OES-07 SS-15 SP-02 DOE-11 INT-05
H-02 PA-02 PRS-01 OIC-02 AGRE-00 NAS-01 NASA-02
TRSE-00 OMB-01 JUSE-00 ACDA-12 DOTE-00 CG-00
FAA-00 HEW-06 HUD-02 /201 W
----------083928 201837Z /70
R 201421Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4385
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 NAIROBI 1041

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV, UNEP
SUBJECT: UNEP INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS

1. UNEP INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WITH GOVERNMENTS TOOK PLACE IN NAIROBI FROM JANUARY 15 TO JANUARY 20. FORTY-NINE COUNTRIES (33 MEMBERS OF GOVERNING COUNCIL AND 16 OBSERVERS) AS WELL AS REPRESENTATIVES OF SIX UN AGENCIES ATTENDED. IN TWO HOUR OPENING ADDRESS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TOLBA REVIEWED SIGNIFCANT DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING UNEP SINCE GOVERNING COUNCIL V IN MAY 1977, INCLUDING JUNE MEETING OF CPC, JULY ECOSOC SESSION, AUGUST-SEPTEMBER CONFERENCE ON DESERTIFICATION, OCTOBER TBILISI CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION. AMONG MORE SIGNIFICANT POINTS IN TOLBA'S ADDRESS WERE FOLLOWING: (A) TOLBA MET JANUARY 4 WITH UNESCO DG M'BOW AND AGREED THAT ALL AGENCIES CONCERNED WITH ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION SHOULD BE ASKED FOR COMMENTS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF TBILISI RECOMMENDATIONS; UNESCO, BY END OF MARCH WILL
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 NAIROB 01041 01 OF 02 201741Z

COME UP WITH DETAILED TWO YEAR PLAN AND MORE GENERAL PLANT FOR SUBSEQUENT THREE YEARS; (B) UNGA, AFTER TOLBA'S DEPARTURE FROM NEW YORK, ADOPTED RESOLUTION CALLING FOR SUB-REGIONAL OFFICE OF UNEP TO DEAL WITH PROBLEMS OF DESERTIFICATION IN SUDANO-SAHEL REGION. IN EFFORT TO AVOID PROLIFERATION OF UN OFFICES, TOLBA HAS APPROACHED BRAD MORSE OF UNDP ON POSSIBILITY OF EXPENDING UNDP'S

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

SAHELIAN OFFICE INTO JOINT UNDP/UNEP SUDANO-SAHELIAN OFFICE; (C) ON QUESTION OF HABITAT, TOLBA ANNOUNCED THAT HUMAN SETTELEMENTS FOUNDATION WILL BE MOVED TO KENYATTA CONFERENCE CENTER AND WILL BE JOINED BY CHBP STAFF FROM NEW YORK IN JULY-AUGUST THIS YEAR; SOME SEVENTY-FIVE PROFESSIONAL AND GENERAL SERVICE STAFF IS EXPECTED TO MOVE FROM N.Y.; (D) ENVIRONMENT FUND - TOLBA REITERATED DETERMINATION TO BROADEN BASE OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO ENVIRONMENT FUND AND NOTED THAT HE "CANNOT ACCEPT" ONLY 76 GOVERNMENTS CONTRIBUTING TO AN INTERNATIONAL FUND. HE NOTED THAT BY END OF 1978, CASH CARRY-OVER OF $28 MILLION IS ANTICIPATED, OF WHICH $10.6 MILLION WOULD BE IN NON-CONVERTIBLE CURRENCY (NCC). TOLBA ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH USSR THROUGH SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN NAIROBI, AND HAD MET WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS DURING TBILISI CONFERENCE. HE HAS REQUESTED APPROVAL OF PROJECTS TO VALUE OF BETWEEN $3 AND $4 MILLION IN RUBLES AND EXPECTS TO SIGN PROJECT DOCUMENTS IN THAT AMOUNT DURING VISIT TO SOVIET UNION END OF FEBRUARY.

2. CONSULTATIONS THEN PROCEEDED UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR THACHER. FIRST ITEM DISCUSSED WAS RPGORAM DOCUMENTATION. CANADA, WHICH HAD CHAIRED WORKING GROUP OF DOCUMENTATION AT GC V, DECLARED ITSELF "SOMEWHAT DISMAYED" AT FAILURE OF SECRETARIAT TO REFLECT WG'S RECOMMENDATIONS. CANADIANS WERE PARTICULARLY
UNCLASSIFIED

CRITICAL AT INCLUSION OF IN-DEPT ANALYSIS AS PART OF PROGRAM DOCUMENTATION, HAVING ANTICIPATED UNIFORM TREATMENT OF ALL PROGRAMS WITH IN-DEPTH TREATMENT IN SEPARATE DOCUMENT. MOST OTHER DELEGATIONS MADE ESSENTIALLY SAME POINTS BUT WITH SOMEWHAT MORE MUTED DISMAY. GENERAL CONCENSUS APPEARED ON FOLLOWING POINTS: (A) DOCUMENTS SHOULD COVER ALL PROGRAM AREAS EQUALLY; (B) IN-DEPTH TREATMENT OF SELECTED AREAS SHOULD BE SEPARATE; (C) BUDGETARY INFORMATION SHOULD BE INCLUDED. RECOMMENDATION BY CYPRUS THAT GC VI APPOINT A NEW WORKING GROUP TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO GC VII FAILED TO GENERATE ANY SUPPORT.

3. MEETING THEN TURNED TO DISCUSSION OF ROLE OF INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS. IN OPINION OF MANY DELEGATIONS THE CONSULTATIONS SHOULD DEAL MORE WITH SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES. THACHER NOTED DIFFICULTY IN ATTRACTING SUFFICIENT EXPERTISE ON VARIETY OF SUBJECTS TO ENABLE THESE MEETINGS TO TREAT SUBSTNATIVE QUESTIONS IN DETAIL. NORWEGIAN SUGGESTION THAT CONSULTATIONS BE TRANSFORMED INTO PREPARATORY SESSION FOR GC ATTRACTED SUPPORT FROM CANADA AND US. JAPAN HOPED THAT MODIFICATION OF INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WOULD

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

HELP TO INCREASE FLOW OF INFORMATION TO GOVERNMENTS.
WHILE AGREEING ON NEED FOR IMPROVED INFORMATION FLOW,
FINLAND SAW NO NEED TO CHANGE NATURE OF INFORMAL CON-
SULTATIONS.

4. IN INTRODUCING DISCUSSION ON TOLBA'S 21 GOALS WHICH
HAD BEEN APPROVED BY GC V, ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
EVTEEV STRESSED THAT GOALS WERE NOT SEPARATE FROM PROGRAM
BUT MRELY INTEDED TO HIGHLIGHT MOST IMPORTANT ASPECTS
OF PROGRAM. MANY DELEGATES, WHILE PROFESSING TO WELCOME
SETTING OF GOALS, INDULGED IN VARYING DEGREES OF NIT-
PICKING AND SEMANTICISM WHILE DISCUSSING THEM, POINTING
OUT THAT THEY WERE NOT OF EQUAL IMPORTANCE, THAT SOME WERE
IN FACT NO "GOALS" AT ALL, AND THAT THEY LACKED CON-
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 NAIROB 01041 01 OF 02 201741Z

CRETENESS AND SPECIFICTY. US SUGGESTED THAT DELEGATES
MIGHT BE TAKING THIS QUESTION TOO SERIOUSLY. IT SEEMED
PERFECTLY APPROPRIATE TO US DEL THAT EXDIR, AT GC V
SHOULD HAVE LOOKED AHEAD TO GC X AND PLANNED FOR SOME SORT
OF ACCOUNTING 10 YEARS AFTER STOCKHOLM. IN RETROSPECT,
GC V PROBABLY SHOULD HAVE SIMPLY ACCEPTED GOALS AND NOT
CALLED FOR ANY FURTHER CONSIDERATION. ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR EVTEEV HIMSELF HAD REFERRED TO THE GOALS AS
"BENCHMARKS" AND IN OPINION OF US THIS IS THE WAY IN
WHICH THEY SHOULD BE VIEWED. THEY SHOULD IN NO WAY
BE PERMITTED TO DISTORT THE PROGRAM AS A WHOLE.

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 NAIROB 01041 02 OF 02 201746Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10
AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 SOE-02 COME-00 DODE-00
EB-08 EPA-04 INR-07 L-03 NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00
PM-05 USIA-15 OES-07 SS-15 SP-02 DOE-11 INT-05
H-02 PA-02 PRS-01 OIC-02 AGRE-00 NAS-01 NASA-02
TRSE-00 OMB-01 JUSE-00 ACDA-12 DOTE-00 CG-00
FAA-00 HEW-06 HUD-02 /201 W
----------084083 201839Z /70
R 201421Z JAN 78

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4386
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 NAIROBI 1041

5. NEARLY ALL DELEGATES WERE CRITICAL OF CONCEPT OF "FRIENDS OF ENVIRONMENT" NOTING THAT PURPOSE OF NETWORK WAS UNCLEAR, AND THAT CRITERIA FOR SELECTION WERE NOT SPELLED OUT. MANY DELEGATIONS ALSO NOTED DIFFICULTY IN HERENT FOR GOVERNMENTS IN NOMINATING SOME ORGANIZATIONS OR INDIVIDUALS TO EXCLUSION OF OTHERS. THACHER STRESSED THAT "FRIENDS" NOT INTENDED AS ALTERNATIVE TO OFFICIAL CHANNELS AND WAS PRIMARILY A RESPONSE TO PERCEIVED NEED FOR IMPROVED PUBLIC RELATIONS AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION. ASKED ABOUT FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS, THACHER HAD NO PRECISE DATA BUT DECLARED THAT IT WOULD BE PRIMARILY A "MAILING LIST OPERATION" TO DISSEMINATE REGULAR INFORMATION MATERIAL, WITH PERHAPS A NEWSLETTER INTRODUCED AT A LATER DATE. IN ADDITION, UNEP PERSONNEL TRAVELLING ON MISSIONS COULD MAKE CONTACT WITH "FRIENDS" IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES. TUNISIA SUGGESTED THAT PROPOSED FIGURE OF 300 WAS TOO LOW AND SUGGESTED 3,000 MORE APPROPRIATE; THACHER ADMITTED THAT 300 WAS ARBITRARY AND THAT IN FACT NO CEILING WAS ENVISIONED.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

6. ONE SUBJECT ON WHICH THERE WAS UNANIMITY AND OBVIOUS SATISFACTION WAS NEW FORMAT AND CONTENT OF REPORTS TO GOVERNMENTS. WHILE VARIOUS REPRESENTATIVES HAD SUGGESTIONS FOR MINOR CHANGES, CONSENSUS WAS THAT LATEST REPORT WAS SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT OVER PREDECESSOR.

7. ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OLTMANNS INTRODUCED STATUS OF ENVIRONMENT FUND. NOTING THAT GC V HAD DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION TO PROBLEM OF "SLIPPAGE" WHICH HAD BEEN AT 37 TO 40 PERCENT LEVEL, OLTMANNS REPORTED THAT PERCENTAGE IS NOW "MUCH REDUCED". OLTMANNS NOTED THAT FUND RULES DO NOT PERMIT UNLIQUIDATED OBLIGATIONS AT END OF ONE YEAR TO BE CARRIED OVER INTO NEXT. ADOPTION OF BIENNIAL BUDGETING WILL ALLEVIATE THIS DIFFICULTY FOR FIRST YEAR OF BIENNIUM, BUT IT WILL REMAIN PROBLEM AT END OF SECOND YEAR. SECRETARIAT THEREFORE PROPOSES TO RECOMMEND TO GC THAT FUND RULES BE CHANGED TO ALLOW AUTOMATIC CARRY-OVER OF INLIQUIDATED OBLIGATIONS. MANY DELEGATIONS EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ABOUT PROPOSED CHANGE, BUT NOTED INABILITY TO TAKE FIRM POSITION WITHOUT REFERRING MATTER TO CAPITALS. US AND

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

CANADIAN DELS REQUESTED THAT SECRETARIAT CONDUCT APPRO-
PRIATE CONSULTATIONS WITHIN UN TO ASCERTAIN AND REPORT
TO GC VI DEGREE TO WHICH PROPOSED CHANGE ACCORDS WITH
SYSTEM-WIDE EXPERIENCE AND PRACTICE.

8. FINAL ITEM FOR DISCUSSION WAS ROLE OF GOVERNING
COUNCIL IN APPROVING PROJECTS. NEARLY ALL COUNTRIES WHICH
SPOKE TO THIS ISSUE, INCLUDING US, AGREED THAT GC IS AND
SHOULD BE POLICY-MAKING BODY AND CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO
INVOLVE ITSELF IN PROJECT APPROVAL, EXCEPT IN CASES WHERE
NATURE OR SIZE OF PROJECT DICTATES OTHERWISE. LOW-KEY
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 NAIROB 01041 02 OF 02 201746Z

US SUGGESTION THAT PERHPAS AD HOC COMMITTEE COULD EXAMINE
QUESTION BEWTEEN GC VI AND GC VII WITH VIEW TO DETER-
MINING WHAT PREVIOUS PROJECTS MIGHT HAVE WARRANTED
GC ATTENTION RECEIVED SUPPORT ONLY FROM AUSTRALIA AND
TUNISIA. US STRESSED THAT IT WAS NOT WEDDED TO SUCH
A COMMITTEE AND CERTAINLY DID NOT FEEL THAT DECISION OR
RECOMMENDATION WOULD BE APPROPRIATE AT THIS TIME.

9. AT FINAL SESSION, THACHER READ AND DISTRIBUTED TO
DELEGATES HIS SUMMARY REPORT ON CONSULTATIONS WHICH
HE WILL FORWARD TO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. (USDEL HAND-
CARRYING COPIES OF THIS REPORT AND OF TOLBA'S OPENING
STATEMENT TO WASHINGTON.)

10. COMMENT: USDEL CONSIDERS INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS
TO HAVE BEEN BOTH OPEN AND PRODUCTIVE. THIS VIEW GENERALLY
SHARED BY MOST OTHER DELS, AND SOME WHO HAVE ATTENDED
MOST PREVIOUS CONSULTATIONS CHARACTERIZED THESE AS BEST
SO FAR. FRANKNESS OF EXCHANGES BETWEEN DELEGATES AND
SECRETARIAT, AS EXEMPLIFIED BY SECRETARIAT'S DECISION
TO SHARE THEIR REPORT TO TOLBA WITH DELEGATES, AUGURS
WELL FOR GC VI.
LMELLE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NAIROB01041
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780031-0273
Format: TEL
From: NAIROBI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780140/aaaabhsr.tel
Line Count: 264
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 371fc7e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3741125
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNEP INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS
TAGS: SENV, PORG, KE, UNEP
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/371fc7e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014